

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Colombia

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SUBJECT PCO Knowledge of PCC Activities

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1. In a recent secret meeting called by Augusto Duran Osorio, Secretary General of the Partido Comunista Obrero (PCO - Communist Workers Party), it was made apparent that the PCO is well informed on the activities of the Partido Comunista de Colombia (PCC - Communist Party of Colombia).
2. Concerning the recent activities of the PCC, Duran stated that prior to Gilberto Vieira White's trip to Quito, Ecuador,* he had made arrangements to have one Jorge Chamorro, Ecuadoran Communist and Director of the Mechanics Syndicate, keep a surveillance on Vieira White's movements. Duran told his militant assistants that Vieira White had misinformed the Executive Committee of the PCC as to his real purpose for going to Quito and that in reality he had only met various Communists there by coincidence.
3. Duran further declared that the PCO must be extremely careful in permitting any of their women sympathizers to participate in the contemplated women's organization under the sponsorship of the PCC.** In order to counteract the PCC's plan, he added that the PCC is planning to organize its own feminine group under the directorship of Enriqueta Jimenez.
4. Duran stated that the PCC has little influence in labor groups in the coastal sections of Colombia. This was evidenced, according to Duran, by the lack of response obtained by Pedro J. Abella, prominent PCC leader, in his recent tour through that area to obtain labor support.
5. Duran was well informed on the plan of the PCC to set up its own independent ticket in connection with the 1949 elections.*** He stated that the future of the PCO, on the other hand, remains in infiltrating and influencing the leftist Liberal groups, and he recommended that it affiliate itself with the Comando Popular Liberal.
6. In further commenting on the political situation in Colombia, Duran stated that the PCO should endeavor to capitalize the split within the Liberal Party. He stated that he had planned to contact Francisco Jose Chaux Ferrer of the Liberal Party to see what concessions his group might make to the PCO in the coming elections, but had refrained from so doing because of the conflict Chaux is having at the present time with the directorate of the Liberal Party.
7. Duran stated that Alvaro Ayalo, ex-Secretary of the National Liberal Directorate,

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who is presently being accused by the Liberal Party of having absconded with that Party's records, had removed all correspondence of the ex-Liberal leader, Jorge Gaitan. Among these documents is correspondence from the Partido Socialista Democratico (the name of the Communist Party before the split took place) which tended to compromise the Communist Party at the time when Duran was Secretary General. He expressed great interest in recovering these papers although he did not enlarge on their content.

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